BRITAIN'S ROYAL AMBASSADOR : H.R.H. PRINCESS MARGARET.

IN February 1955 Princess Margaret spent a month touring the West Indies, and this year she was to return as the Queen's special representative to attend the inauguration of the Federal Legislature of the West Indies in Trinidad on April 22. Her tour was to include a visit to Tobago and to British Guiana, which was to be followed by a brief visit to British Honduras before her return to this country on May 7. The Colonial Office stated that Princess Margaret would be the first member of the Royal family to visit Guiana since it was ceded to Britain in 1814-15. In July the Princess is to make her first visit to Canada, where she is going to spend about a fortnight in British Columbia to attend the Province's centenary celebrations, after which she will spend about fifteen days visiting other parts of Canada.

Photograph in colour by Cecil Beaton.

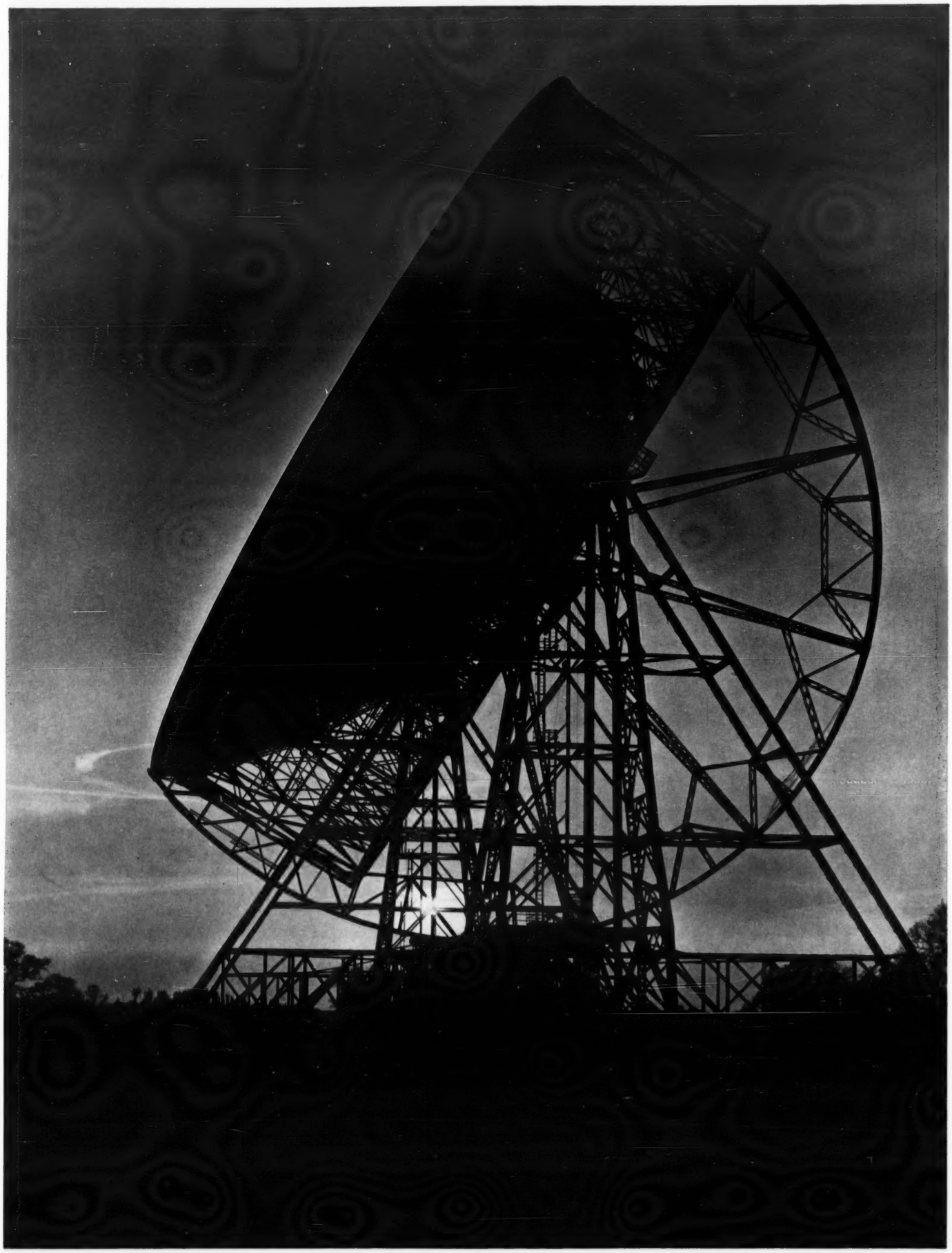
SWEDEN'S ROYAL MARGARET : PRINCESS MARGARETHA, ELDEST GRANDCHILD OF THE KING OF SWEDEN.

Princess Margaretha of Sweden, who was born on October 31, 1934, is the eldest child of the late Prince Gustaf Adolf (elder son of King Gustaf VI Adolf of Sweden) and Princess Sibylla of Sweden; and her young brother, the twelve-year-old Prince Carl Gustaf, is Heir Apparent to the Swedish throne. Her aunt is Queen Ingrid of Denmark, and Princess Margaretha is thus cousin to yet another Royal Margaret, Princess Margrethe of Denmark, who recently came of age and took her place in the Danish State Council. A recent suitor for Princess Margaretha's hand has been Mr. Robin Douglas-Home. No announcement has been made of any engagement between them, but Mr. Douglas-Home visited Stockholm in March and was received by King Gustaf Adolf. Princess Margaretha left Sweden on March 20 for a month's private visit to Spain, travelling incognito as "Miss Margaretha Westroem."

A HOST OF COLOURED PARACHUTES : A STRIKING SCENE AT A R.A.F. PARACHUTE SERVICING UNIT IN OXFORDSHIRE.

At the R.A.F. Transport Command Parachute Servicing Unit, Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire, W.R.A.F. safety equipment workers are engaged in servicing and packing parachutes for the 16th Independent Airborne Brigade, Aldershot, and for the Parachute Training School at R.A.F. Station, Abingdon. The coloured parachutes shown above are used for supply dropping, the colours assisting in the rapid identification of arms, ammunition, food, medical supplies, and so on. For " live " drops, white and khaki parachutes are used. The latter are re-packed every two months, and those for supplies, every three months. The colourful lives of the safety equipment workers are further enlivened by background music, which is found to make for greater efficiency. The parachutes are made by the G. Q. Parachute Co., Ltd., and Irving Air Chute of Great Britain Ltd.

Photograph by George Dovey, A.R.P.S., Air Ministry Photographic Reproduction Branch.



MAKING AN INTRICATE PATTERN AGAINST THE SETTING SUN: THE GIANT RADIO TELESCOPE AT JODRELL BANK, CHESHIRE.

Manchester University's Jodrell Bank radio telescope, which is the largest steerable one in the world, came into operation last autumn, and quickly made its mark on public interest all over the world when, at the request of the Russians, it helped to track Sputnik I. Now, in its more normal rôle under the direction of Professor A. C. B. Lovell, it is probing the invisible mysteries of the universe and looking back millions of light years to gather knowledge on the many problems raised by the new science of radio-astronomy. The consulting engineers were Messrs. Husband and Company, and the telescope was built by the United Steel Structural Company. The 700-ton parabolic bowl reflector—250 ft. in diameter—can be pointed in any direction by pressing a button. The movable parts weigh some 2000 tons and are controlled by equipment supplied by the Brush Electrical Engineering Co. Ltd. This provides all the motive power for the telescope, and can traverse it with great accuracy at high speed or at an almost infinitesimal rate.

Reproduced from a colour photograph by Adolf Morath.